

ABSTRACT

A method and system controls transmit power by combining the advantages of digital attenuation and analog baseband step attenuators by calibration to overcome the limitations of analog step attenuators. The calibration technique uses highly accurate digital attenuators to determine the actual sizes of the analog steps as analog step attenuator is stepped through a range of attenuation levels. A method of calibration accurately measures attenuation steps comparison to a digital attenuator so that the attenuation actually realized by the analog step attenuator is accurately known. Therefore, the difference between the attenuation realized by the analog step attenuator and the desired attenuation is accurately known. The difference is realized in the digital attenuator and the attenuation resulting from the composite of the digital and analog step attenuator can very accurately realize the requested attenuation.